



NEWS RELEASE

08-130

Date: Tuesday, October 07, 2008
District: 1 - Eureka
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE NEW HARDSCRABBLE CREEK BRIDGE IS IN PLACE!

Eureka – Last night, Monday, October 6, Caltrans closed Route 199 between Hiouchi and Gasquet to move the new Hardscrabble Creek Bridge into place. The move was successful and traffic is flowing over the new bridge.

To complete the new bridge, an innovative technique called the “Jack and Slide” method was used. The new bridge was built next to and just upstream of the existing bridge on temporary abutments. With traffic detoured over the new bridge, the old bridge was removed and new abutments constructed on the existing alignment. The new bridge was then jacked up and slid approximately 48 feet into place on the new abutments.

“The team worked very well together,” said Karen Sanders, Resident Engineer. “We slid the new bridge into place early this morning.”

Using the Jack and Slide method saves time and lowers construction costs. The new Hardscrabble Creek Bridge is the fourth bridge in California built using this method.

The new bridge is wider, 43 feet wide versus 28 feet wide. It has 8-foot shoulders to accommodate pedestrian and bicycle traffic and will provide service to the traveling public for many years to come. A conduit was built into the new bridge for future fiber optic lines. Like the old Hardscrabble Creek Bridge, the new bridge is dedicated to Viggo “Vic” Meedom, a veteran of World War I and longtime Del Norte County community leader.

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Note to Media: Please contact Julie East at julie_east@dot.ca.gov or 707-441-3998 for accompanying photos or time lapse video.

